

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

March 2013 – Week 2

Air Date: March 10 – March 16 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: A TEXAN ASSASSINATED

MARCH 1865 AND A CONTROVERSIAL TEXAN MEETS HIS MAKER.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

MARCH 15, 1865. ANAHUAC. ARROGANT AND AMBITIOUS, THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAMBERS IS A PROMINENT BUT UNPOPULAR MAN.

ARRIVING IN TEXAS IN 1830 HE SERVED AS A JUDGE UNDER MEXICAN RULE AND WAS SLOW TO SUPPORT TEXAS INDEPENDENCE.

WELL-KNOWN FOR HIS SHADY LAND DEALS, CHAMBERS RAN FOR OFFICE SIX TIMES AND LOST, INCLUDING FOUR RACES FOR GOVERNOR. HE EVEN KILLED A MAN BUT WAS NEVER CHARGED.

TONIGHT, HE SITS IN HIS UPSTAIRS PARLOR, HIS SIX-MONTH OLD DAUGHTER STELLA ON HIS KNEE.

SUDDENLY, A SHOTGUN BLAST COMES THROUGH THE OPEN WINDOW AND CHAMBERS IS DEAD.

DESPITE MANY SUSPECTS, THE ASSASSIN IS NEVER CAUGHT.

THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAMBERS WAS MURDERED 148 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Margaret Swett Henson, "CHAMBERS, THOMAS JEFFERSON [1802-1865]," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fch08>), accessed March 04, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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